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10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the metal to be treated is for use as a moving part in an apparatus.

11. A method according to claim 1, which is carried out in situ on apparatus selected from the group consisting of engineering equipment and storage tanks.

12. A metal or metal article which has been subjected to a method as defined in claim 1. 102

13. Use of a method as defined in claim 1, to improve the resistance of austenitic stainless steel to mechanical degradation.

14. Use of a method as defined in claim 1, to remove or transform martensite from austenitic stainless steel.

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